DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 448 898 PS 029 123

TITLE	Promoting Literacy Growth in Young Children. The First Steps Series. [Videotape].
PUB DATE	1999-00-00
NOTE	0p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Chip Taylor Communications, 2 East View Drive, Derry, NH 03038-4812. Tel: 800-876-2447 (Toll Free); Tel: 603-434-9262; Fax: 603-432-2723; Web site: http://www.chiptaylor.com; e-mail: sales@chiptaylor.com (25-minute VHS-tape, $166.65).
PUB TYPE	Guides - Non-Classroom (055) -- Non-Print Media (100)
EDRS PRICE	Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	Beginning Reading; Beginning Writing; *Emergent Literacy; *Family Environment; Parent Education; *Parent Role; Reading Aloud to Others; Videotape Recordings
IDENTIFIERS	Environmental Print; Print Awareness

ABSTRACT

Children's capacity for learning to read and write at school is directly linked to the experiences children have at home with language, books, and writing. This videotape shows how parents can provide a home environment that promotes literacy growth for their children. The 25-minute video first highlights the elements of a literacy-rich environment: reading aloud to children, talking to them, providing opportunities for writing activities, and modeling reading. The video then emphasizes the importance of reading aloud to children, from reciting nursery rhymes to infants, to exploring picture books, to reading aloud even through primary grades. Benefits of reading aloud are highlighted: enriched oral language skills and vocabulary, exposure to book language and to print conventions, a love of reading, awareness of sound-symbol relationships, and confidence from exposure to stories beyond the child's familiar life. The video then explores additional ways parents can foster early literacy: visiting the library and selecting a book; providing a special place at home to keep library books; asking questions and offering comments before, during, and after reading aloud; engaging in creative activities after reading; and providing opportunities and activities for children to begin the developmental process of learning to write. (HTH)

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